News-item Captioned "Government Green Signal to Act with 40 Errors*'

104. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTARCHAJEE: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the newsitem captioned "Government Green Signal to Act with 40 Errors", published in the Telegraph dated the 21st June, 2001;

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto;

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to correct the mistakes in order to ensure the corrected version of the Act; and

(d) the steps taken to identify persons responsible for such serious lapse?

THE MINISTER OF LAW JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Most of the printing errors occurred in the Schedule portion of the Act which is only reproduction of the provisions of the Chemical Weapons Convention. There were 3 minor mistakes in the text of the main Act which has 56 sections. The errors were not of drafting nature and did not have any effect on the import of the legislation. The Act has not yet been enforced by the Government. However, action has already been taken to correct the mistakes.

(d) More than twenty officials were involved in proof reading of the Bill. The matter is being investigated.